

## BUSHWICK FIVE IN LINE TO WIN P. S. A. L. TITLE

Ridgewood Boys Have  
Piled Up Thirteen  
Straight Victories

No championship has ever graced the efforts of the athletic teams of Bushwick High School, of Brooklyn, but if the basketball team continues at the dizzy pace it has been setting it is sure to carry home the Public Schools Athletic League title.

Under the able tutelage of James V. McGill, formerly of City College, who is taking his first fling at coaching, the Ridgewood five has compiled an unbroken string of thirteen victories. Six of these have been in the schoolboy round robin tourney. The modest McGill says that the reason for the success of the team is due to the "spirit of harmony that runs through the members."

The Bushwick team has already taken into camp several former holders of the championship. Among these are Stuyvesant High School, last year's winner; the High School of Commerce and De Witt Clinton, Eastern District, which is to be met again later in the championship tourney, has made the best showing against Bushwick. In a contest on the Eastern District court the latter was beaten only by one point, the score being 22 to 21.

**Doubles Rivals' Points**  
The Bushwick team has more than doubled the points scored by its rivals, the twelve games played so far giving Bushwick 359 and its opponents 159. Only Townsend Harris, Eastern District and Boys' High, which are scheduled to be played later on, stand in the way of Bushwick's championship aspirations being realized.

The team is a strong and well balanced one, being composed of Edelstein and Robinson, forwards; Cherry, center, and Dorff and Billig, guards. In all their contests the boys have set a killing pace throughout, and while some of their rivals have followed the speed for a while, they have always faltered toward the end.

The Bushwick boys are most accurate in their shooting, but some attempts to make any spectacular shots. They look for aid from each other in working the ball to a position from which a goal is possible, employing a deceptive passing game. All their opponents are guarded closely.

George Edelstein has been greatly responsible for the success of the team in the championship tourney. In the Clinton, Stuyvesant and Bryant title games he was called to shoot thirty-one goals from the foul line, and in only four cases did he fail to send the ball swishing through the basket for a point. Edelstein has shot more foul and field goals for his team than any other player among the high schools. Another capable forward is Dave Robinson.

**Cherry Star Centre**

Owing to a lack of proficient players for the centre position, Coach McGill was forced to send the diminutive Cherry to that position. Although he has been frequently opposed by taller opponents, Cherry has almost invariably prevented his rivals from getting the jump on him.

Joe Billig and George Dorff, the captain, at the guard positions, have played a consistently strong game. In several instances their opponents have failed to cage a single field goal.

The record of the Bushwick team play to date is as follows: Bushwick 16, Eastern District 8; Bushwick 22, Eastern District 21; Bushwick 53, New Utrecht 4; Bushwick 33, Erasmus Hall 8; Bushwick 29, Commerce 17; Bushwick 17, Stuyvesant 11; Bushwick 43, Erasmus Hall 8; Bushwick 25, Bryant 20; Bushwick 19, De Witt Clinton 14; Bushwick 13, C. C. N. Y. freshmen 12; Bushwick 27, Newtown 15; Bushwick 28, New Utrecht 5; Bushwick 29, Richmond Hill 16.

## MIDDLE WEST TO HAVE INDOOR COLLEGE MEET

Western Conference athletes are following the lead of the Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletes of America in announcing an indoor relay carnival to be held under the auspices of the Athletic Association of the University of Illinois at Urbana, Ill., on March 3.

This is the same date selected by the I. C. A. A. A. for its third annual indoor meeting, which this year will take place at Philadelphia. The Western fixture, though it has four relay events on the programme, will include more individual competitive events than the meet in the East, where the idea has been to encourage athletes of moderate ability by a series of group competitions.

**A Novel Event**

A decidedly novel event in the Illinois programme is the first indoor intercollegiate individual all-around championship. This will consist of twenty-five yard dash, shot-put, running high jump, 75-yard hurdles, pole vault, broad jump and 880-yard run. The scoring for this championship will be on a percentage basis, following the plan used by the A. A. U.

A perfect percentage of 1,000 will be given for tying the world's record in any of the events; using the record as a basis, a plan of computing the percentage earned by poorer marks will be worked out. The total score will be made up from the individual score in each of the events.

The West is fortunate in that the Eastern meet is an indoor one, while in the Madison Square Garden and in Philadelphia the members of the I. C. A. A. A. are limited to a track of ten laps to the mile, while in the complete under conditions almost as favorable as can be obtained outdoors.

**Immense Stadium**

There probably is no building in the United States better suited for an indoor meet than the huge armory at the University of Illinois. Figures give only a slight idea of the immense size of the building. It is 450 feet long, 220 feet wide and has a vaulted roof, which renders the entire floor space free from any pillars or other obstructions.

A black-cinder track 10 feet wide, six and three-quarter laps to the mile, encircles the floor, which is of dirt composition. There is a 75-yard straightaway jumping pit, adequate space for weight events, plenty of room for the dressing room, with shower baths and still plenty of room for spectators.

## Quintet of Bushwick High Who Have Hopes of Landing School Title



## SCHOOLBOYS BEND EAR FOR A CALL TO THE DIAMOND

Fourteen Nines Will Enter the  
Struggle for Borough  
Championships

Fourteen schools will soon call out candidates for the baseball squads to prepare for the first borough championships of the Public Schools Athletic League held since the season of 1912. The entrants are divided into three sections and will begin to play on April 7.

The high school games committee has only sanctioned borough championships. If no squabbles mar the tourney this year it is likely that greater city championships will be contested in 1918.

In the Manhattan-Bronx-Richmond division six teams will fight it out for the section title. These are De Witt Clinton, Townsend Harris, Curtis, High School of Commerce, Evander Childs and Morris. The Brooklyn section has only four entrants—Erasmus Hall, Boys' High, Commercial and New Utrecht. Newtown, Richmond Hill, Flushing and Bryant are the contenders for the Queensboro championship.

**MANHATTAN-BRONX-RICHMOND DIVISION**  
April 7—Curtis vs. Commerce; Evander Childs vs. Clinton; Morris vs. Townsend Harris.  
April 14—Curtis vs. Evander Childs; Commerce vs. Townsend Harris; Morris vs. Clinton.  
April 21—Morris vs. Curtis; Evander Childs vs. Clinton; Townsend Harris vs. Commerce.  
May 12—Commerce vs. Curtis; Clinton vs. Evander Childs; Morris vs. Townsend Harris.  
May 19—Evander Childs vs. Curtis; Townsend Harris vs. Commerce; Morris vs. Clinton.  
May 26—Curtis vs. Morris; Commerce vs. Evander Childs; Clinton vs. Townsend Harris.  
May 30—Townsend Harris vs. Curtis; Clinton vs. Morris; Evander Childs vs. Commerce.  
First place, second place, consolation.

**BROOKLYN DIVISION**  
April 23—New Utrecht vs. Commercial; Erasmus Hall vs. Boys' High; New Utrecht vs. Boys' High.  
May 12—New Utrecht vs. Erasmus Hall; Boys' High vs. Commercial; New Utrecht vs. Boys' High.  
May 19—Erasmus Hall vs. Commercial; New Utrecht vs. Boys' High.  
May 26—Commercial vs. Boys' High.  
First place, second place, consolation.

**QUEENSBORO DIVISION**  
Northern vs. Richmond Hill, April 27 and May 1; Richmond Hill vs. Bryant, April 27 and May 1; Northern vs. Newtown, May 1 and May 22; Richmond Hill vs. Newtown, May 1 and May 22; Flushing vs. Bryant, May 4 and May 25.  
First place, second place, consolation.

## CHICAGO OARSMEN WANT CENTRAL STATES RACES

Chicago, Feb. 3.—The Central States Rowing Association regatta may be held in this city, according to delegates back from the annual election of the association at Quincy, Chicago has been a weak rowing centre in recent years and has not been in the field for regattas, one of the main reasons being the lack of a suitable course. The one in Lincoln Park is too narrow for big races, while on the lake it is too rough for the shells a great part of the time. An improved course will be provided for the Central States regatta if the latter is awarded the Windy City.

Elmer Mutz, of the South Side Boat Club of Quincy, was chosen president at the meeting and George A. Minges, of the Western Rowing Club, St. Louis, vice-president. Other officers selected were: J. L. Hase, North Side Boat Club, Quincy, secretary; Emil Floerke, Central Rowing Club, St. Louis, treasurer; W. J. Hultner, St. Louis Rowing Club; H. A. Leister, Mount City Rowing Club, St. Louis; A. W. Sewell, North End Rowing Club, St. Louis; and W. C. Link, Baden Rowing Club, St. Louis, members of the Board of Directors.

CHERRY  
Center

ROBINSON  
Left  
Forward

EDELSTEIN  
Right  
Forward

BILLIG  
Left  
Guard

DORFF  
Right  
Guard

Photos by GREELEY SER.

## BUCK FREEMAN GAVE FRED MITCHELL START

Chicago, Feb. 3.—Fred Mitchell, manager of the Cubs, was a pitcher when he first broke into professional baseball. He was with the Boston Americans in 1901, Jimmy Collins being the manager of the club. Mitchell's first start as a major leaguer was against the Chicago White Sox in Chicago, and this is the way Mitchell tells about it:

"It was just a kid and anxious to make good, so Jimmy Collins gave me a start at old Sox park. I was scared stiff and the first inning was awful. I was shaking with stage fright and walked two or three guys and then, before one swatted one, Freddie Parent came that time to kick a couple of grounders."

"The result was that when the first inning was over the White Sox had five runs and we had nothing. There was one fellow on the club at that time who was my friend, and that was Buck Freeman. He came in from right field after the inning and I remember just what he said to Jimmy Collins. 'You're not going to take the kid out, are you, Jim?' he said."

"Not on your life," answered Jim. "I went back and had my head with me from then on and stopped the White Sox. In the fourth inning Buck Freeman came up with one on and drove the ball over the fence. You know how old Buck could hit 'em. In the eighth inning Buck came up again with two on, and once more he pulled the ball out of the lot, tying the score. Before the inning was over we led, 8 to 5, and I won the game, 10 to 5. I always have remembered the part Buck Freeman played."

**MITCHELL, RED PITCHER,  
TURNS DOWN CONTRACT**

Cincinnati, Feb. 3.—Clarence Mitchell is the first real hold-out among the Reds; he has been offered only \$300 increase over his 1916 pay and has declined the terms.

Mitchell won a bigger percentage of games than other pitchers, even though his harder, because he could cut in with his own stick and contribute hits when needed.

## OUTFIELD STAR OF THE TIGERS IS HOLDING OUT

Bobby Veach Believes He Is Entitled to Slight Boost Over Last Year's Salary

Detroit, Mich., Feb. 3.—Here is some good news for the pitchers of the American League:

Bob Veach, the Tigers' slugging left fielder, one of the most reliable batters in a pinch that the circuit boasts, says he is a hold-out and that he will not sign his 1917 contract unless President Navin gives him more money than was written in on the dotted line when the document was sent out from the baseball office. Robert isn't asking for very much of a raise, he declares, but is bound to get a little boost or else refuse to play ball.

President Navin admits that Veach hasn't signed his 1917 contract, but denies that the reason he has failed to do so is because they can't agree on the salary.

"Veach came to my office to talk over the terms of his contract," said Mr. Navin. "I asked him if he was ready to sign up in case we could come to an agreement, and he admitted that he couldn't do anything with the fraternity matter in its present shape. When he told me this I dropped the subject, for it would have been a waste of time to argue about salary or anything else when Bob wasn't ready to close. When he thinks that he is free to do business with me I think we will have little trouble."

## FOOTBALL CAPTAINS LUXURY, SAYS COACH

Couch Hugo Bezdek, chief of football operations at the University of Oregon, has flung a del into his football camp. Bezdek says that football captains are a luxury that can well be dispensed with. He would like to appoint a field captain for each game and thus relieve the strain and feeling of responsibility which he says now often hamper the playing ability.

## FEW SOUTHPAWS MAKE GOOD WITH ATHLETICS

The release of Rube Bressler calls attention to the fact that Connie Mack never had great success with southpaws, excepting, perhaps, Eddie Plank and Rube Waddell. Several southpaws, in addition to Waddell and Plank, looked mighty good for a time in uniforms of the White Elephants. Some of those who proved to be big disappointments were Roger Salmon, Lefty Russell, Dave Danforth, Herb Penock, Harry Krause and Bressler.

Salmon made such a reputation at Princeton that several clubs were after him, but Manager Mack got his name to a contract. Salmon joined the team in 1912 and took the training trip to San Antonio. Manager Mack put in a lot of time on the youngster, and Matt Kilroy, one of the greatest left-hand pitchers in the history of the game, tried to give Salmon some lessons in the art of delivering the ball. Salmon refused to listen to advice and kept on pitching in his old style.

## DATES ANNOUNCED FOR CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

Frederick W. Rubien, chairman of the A. A. U. championship committee, has announced the dates for A. A. U. championship fixtures as follows:

March 15, 16 and 17—National basketball championships at Chicago under auspices of Illinois Athletic Club.

March 17—National indoor track and field championships at New York under auspices of championship committee.

April 2 and 3—National boxing championships at Boston, under auspices of Boston Athletic Association.

April 20—National gymnastic championships at New York, under auspices of championship committee.

May 11 and 12—National wrestling championships at Portland, Ore., under auspices of Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club.

The list of clubs to which national indoor swimming championships have been awarded and the dates on which same are to be held will be announced in a few days.

## MAY POSTPONE INDOOR TENNIS TITLE TOURNEY

Present Crisis with Germany  
May Affect Event Scheduled  
for Saturday

The eighteenth annual tournament for the national indoor lawn tennis championship, scheduled to start on Saturday at the 7th Regiment Armory, Park Avenue and Sixty-sixth Street, may be indefinitely postponed as a result of the present crisis between this country and Germany.

Every state armory has been placed under Federal control and a state of martial law exists within each of these buildings. Should war be declared by the United States or Germany the 7th Regiment Armory would be closed to all except Federal business and the tournament would have to be postponed. Even though war does not come, it was stated last night, rigid restrictions would be in force at the armory and only persons vouched for would be allowed to pass the portals.

T. R. Pell, the three-times holder of the national indoor championship, is to try to regain his laurels in the tournament. The draw for the singles will be made next Wednesday afternoon by King Smith, who will act as referee.

The entries received promise one of the best tournaments ever held for the national title. The list includes Alrick H. Man, Jr., the former Yale captain, who was runner-up to R. Lindley Murray a year ago; Clifford B. Howard, Dean Mathey, S. Howard Vossell, Craig Biddle, F. T. Hunter, Willard Botsford, of Columbia University; H. L. Bowman, Dr. William Rosenbaum, holder of the national indoor doubles championship with A. M. Lovibond, who is now on the firing line in Europe; Benjamin M. Letson, the national boxing champion; Count Otto Salm, C. Y. Smith, of Atlanta, and others.

## M'LOUGHLIN WILL TRY TO COME BACK

Maurice Evans McLoughlin, the famous California "Comet," is reported to have begun strict training in preparation for another try at the national lawn tennis championship. The former national champion and conquer of Brooks and Wilding is working out on the courts at his home, in Los Angeles, and is expected to take part in the East-West matches on March 9 and 10.

Although McLoughlin may be barred from competition as an amateur if the U. S. N. L. T. A. passes the amendment to the amateur rule in Section 6, he would not be affected until April 1, 1918, and it is said he is anxious to have one more try at the title he held for three years.

## SWIMMING OFFICIAL GIVES UP HIS POST

After fourteen years of duty Otto Wahle, of the New York Athletic Club, has been compelled to resign the position of swimming handicapper of the Metropolitan Association. Business demands have been pressing on Wahle for many months, but he was prevailed upon to retain his position as long as possible. Wahle was considered the best authority on aquatics in this country.

General Kelly, a former Winged Foot swimmer, but now affiliated with the Glenmore Athletic Club, of Bath Beach, has been appointed by Frederick W. Rubien, president of the local district, to succeed Wahle. The latter was recommended by Wahle, and has had many years of experience at the sport. He will take up his duties immediately.

## Magnates Fighting For Life of Game

So Says Murray, Who  
Declares There Will  
Be No Strike

By W. J. MACBETH

Billy Murray—former manager of the Phillies, scout for the Pirates and afterward of the advisory board to Harry F. Sinclair in his Newark Federal League promotion—declares that the major league magnates are fighting as much for the very life of baseball itself as for principle in tackling the threatened strike.

"Let me say right at the start," said Murray in a fanning bee the other night, "that there will be no strike. There would be no strike," he continued, "if the players were in the right. And every one who knows anything at all about baseball knows they are absolutely in the wrong. There could be no strike of baseball players when the entire organization for professional baseball has been in motion for so long. I do not believe there would have been a strike in the Federal League days if the magnates had called the bluff of the Fraternity on the celebrated Kraft case."

**Fat Salaries Nullified**

"Gilmore's outlaw league, staggering under hopeless financial burdens, was in no position to take care of a fifth of the good players who would have been thrown out of employment. It must be remembered, too, that a strike would have nullified every fat war time salary."

"Knowing players as I do, I cannot conceive of a strike. They will not stick in the first place. They put personal advantages before common good. I know. I was an interested spectator of the Brotherhood fight."

"But there is a different case. Fultz himself has admitted he has no grievance against the major leagues. For his own aggrandizement he purposes to make them sponsors for alleged broken faith on the part of the minor leagues. This cannot be done. The National

Commission has no jurisdiction over the affairs of the National Association. Minor leagues are desperate—have been desperate for two or three years. They would break from the peace pact before they permitted the major leagues to dictate. They would look their parts before they gave way to Fraternity demands."

"One does not have to be familiar with baseball operations to figure out the situation."

**A Big Expense**

"A lead pencil and piece of paper is all the equipment necessary. In these days of baseball operation salaries have been inflated to an average of approximately \$100,000 a team. Add the sum of \$10,000 right there for spring training. The modern baseball plant will represent an overhead expense of \$50,000 more—in New York for instance, half as much again."

"Then come office rent, officials' salaries, travelling and hotel expenses. I tell you the operation of a major league club these times will make a mighty big hole in a quarter of a million dollars. There are figures in many admissions you must take in with a kick-back of only 25 cents per, to recover that sum."

"Compared to the old days, the cost of operation at the present time is quite staggering. Connie Mack in 1901 won an American League pennant with a team that cost only \$31,000 in salaries. Salary lists now are treble that sum. In 1904 I won a pennant with Jersey City. My salaries did not total \$14,000. Nowadays the average salary list for an international League club is about \$80,000."

"To provide better facilities for the players the magnates planned elaborate, well kept grounds, with elaborate steel and concrete stands equipped with the most luxurious conveniences. These permanent structures have greatly increased the overhead expenses, of course, but they gave the players a false sense of value as to playing worth. Players imagined the owners were making millions. When the Federal League came along and gave them chance to use the new, they boosted their pay away beyond all reason."

## Avaricious Spirit Has Robbed Baseball of Its Sporting Flavor

"I am not opposed to any player getting all he can. He owes as much to himself and family. But I do oppose the avaricious spirit that has crept into the game, which, even from the players' standpoint, has robbed the profession of its genuine sporting flavor. Look at the milk-fed player of to-day as compared to the boys of the old school."

"This Fraternity and its fraternal spirit are responsible in a large measure. In the old days a contract was sacred. No player knew what salary his clubmate or rival got. He didn't know and he didn't care. His personal ambition spurred him to try his hardest for a better contract. There were no milk-fed athletes in those days. They fought against being taken out of the game, as the college athlete of to-day will fight. Removal, except from accident of the most serious nature, was considered a disgrace."

"If players could only understand how thin is the ice upon which they are skating they'd come to their senses in a hurry. If they cannot be brought to their senses any other way they will ruin the game, and that will mean self-destruction, too. The minor leagues are ready to look up shop in a second. Driven to it, the major leagues might take reprisals that would turn the baseball clock back to where it was twenty years ago."

**Gave Self Black Eye**

"The player gave himself a black eye during the days of the Federal League. He forfeited sympathy by his general indifference to the welfare of his club once his name was subscribed to an iron-clad contract covering a term of years. There were exceptions of course, but the exceptions were the great stars of the stamp of Cobb, Speaker and Alexander, who have the interest in the strike whatever the fellows behind the strike, what few are left, are the former kind of gentlemen. They wouldn't take a chance of injury because they were always thinking first to protect their iron-clad contract."

"Wilbert Robinson got the highest salary of all the old Orioles. He drew down \$2,500 a year and had to guard the secret as his life. McGraw, Keeler, Kelly and Jennings didn't average more than \$1,000 a year. But these boys thought, ate and slept baseball. They were out at the park before the dew was off the grass. They begrudged the lunch hour. Bill Donovan thought he was getting a princely salary. The best year in 1910, when he won twenty-five and lost only four games for Detroit. He drew \$4,200. A busher these days turns up his nose at such an offer."

There is just one answer. Salaries have risen beyond all bounds of reason. A balance must be struck or the financiers will withdraw for some more profitable business. It is up to the players to be reasonable. If they fail they are simply arranging the funeral of their profession."

Alfredo de Oro, the well known professional wizard of the cue, is an enthusiastic baseball fan. This student of the three-cue carom takes the diamond sport quite as seriously as that of the green baize table. During the recent championship match at Doyle's, between Moore and McCourt, de Oro offered to President Tener, of the National League, who was a spectator, to offer a few suggestions for strengthening the offence and curtailing the defence of baseball.

"It's more hitting and more action on the bases you want, Governor, is it?" de Oro began. "Well, I've followed the game for twenty-five years and more, and I would like to suggest a few minor changes which, I believe, will fill the bill."

"I'd leave the rules just about as they are; I'd make no change in the distance or conformation of the base paths, nor alter the width of the plate. I'd keep the same number of balls and strikes as at present. But I would suggest that every futile throw a pitcher made to a base for a base runner should count as a ball for the batter. If the pitcher trapped the runner he would not be penalized; if he failed, outside an error on the part of his support, the batter would benefit to the extent of a called ball."

"This rule, I think, would give the batter a better chance to hit a home run. It would give him a better chance to hit a home run."

Barrett Regains Title

H. M. Barrett, who has won the championship of the Crescen Tennis Club several times, has regained the title by defeating William E. Craig in the final round of the annual tournament. He won by a score of 6-3, 7-5, 6-3.

Smith employed his chop stroke to great advantage, and when Craig tried to smother these shots by coming in to the net, Smith sent his returns over the side lines in clever style.

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## British Soccer Results

ENGLISH LEAGUE	
Blackburn	2
Derby	1
Sheff. Wed.	1
Sheff. Utd.	1
Sheff. F.C.	1
Sheff. B.	1
Sheff. C.	1
Sheff. W.	1
Sheff. Y.	1
Sheff. Z.	1
Sheff. A.	1
Sheff. B.	1
Sheff. C.	1
Sheff. D.	1
Sheff. E.	1
Sheff. F.	1
Sheff. G.	1
Sheff. H.	1
Sheff. I.	1
Sheff. J.	1
Sheff. K.	1
Sheff. L.	1
Sheff. M.	1
Sheff. N.	1
Sheff. O.	1
Sheff. P.	1
Sheff. Q.	1
Sheff. R.	1
Sheff. S.	1
Sheff. T.	1
Sheff. U.	1
Sheff. V.	1
Sheff. W.	1
Sheff. X.	1
Sheff. Y.	1
Sheff. Z.	1

## KING SMITH RETAINS LAWN TENNIS CROWN

King Smith retained his title as lawn tennis champion of the 7th Regiment Armory by defeating William E. Craig in the final round of the annual tournament. He won by a score of 6-3, 7-5, 6-3.

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